

wherein said cage bottom has a length l and a width w, and wherein 80 square inches $< l \times w < 110$ square inches.

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A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and

a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially a 18 inches;

wherein said rack has a depth and said cage rests within said rack so that said length of said cage at least partially overlaps said depth of said rack and a portion of said cage extends beyond said rack, the portion having a length and the sum of the length of the portion and the depth of said rack is less than or equal to substantially 36 inches.

REMARKS

Applicants received a Decision on Appeal from the United States Patent Office ("USPTO") Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) in appeal number 2001-1369, mailed by the USPTO on November 28, 2001 (the "Decision"). As set forth in the Decision, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.196(b), applicants' response to the Decision is due no later than January 28, 2002. Accordingly, this response is being timely filed. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment.